

the chronicle

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students'
A-level joy
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Having your cake
and eating it in
Victorian tearoom
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Tommy Mundon

Dazzling of pilot ends in £75 fine

A man who repeatedly shone a laser pen at a police helicopter – dazzling the pilot – has been fined £75.

Hasib Khan, aged 20, used the £6 device in the early hours while with a group of friends at the Clent Hills near Halesowen.

The light was shone in the pilot's eyes and he was forced to turn up the lights on his dials as his vision was blurred. Dudley Magistrates Court heard.

The car in which Khan was a passenger was then chased by the helicopter and police officers through Hale-sowen.

Khan, of Southlands Road, Moseley, Birmingham, admitted a charge of shining a light at an aircraft in flight so as to dazzle or distract the pilot.

Turned

Pilot Trevor Tiller had been flying the West Midlands Police helicopter towards West Bromwich at about 12.40am last Monday for a separate incident when he saw the red laser beam enter the cockpit.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said: "Captain Tiller turned his head away from the beam and had to increase the illumination on his dials so he could see them."

Khan was not represented by a solicitor in court.

He said he did not know that the aircraft he was targeting was a police helicopter.

Khan said he bought the pen for £6.

Khan was fined £75 by the court, and ordered to pay £85 costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

Mundon in message to fans over disease

Black Country comedian Tommy Mundon, who recently revealed that he is battling against Parkinson's Disease, has a message for his fans – I say jed yet!"

Tommy, aged 77, has a packed series of bookings for the autumn and says he is coping well with performing, despite his progressive neurological illness. It was revealed in March that Tommy, who lives with his wife, Val, in Alexandra Road, Halesowen, is in the early stages of Parkinson's.

He is being treated with patches that slowly release medication to control the pain and physiotherapy at Stourbridge's Corbett Hospital.

"I thank everybody for all their good wishes and I will be back on the road again soon," said Tommy.

"I want all my fans to know I say jed yet and I'm willing and able to perform!" He is booked to appear with the Black Country Night Out team, including Aynuk and Wom-bourne folk group Giggety, for a

series of shows. These days, because of his illness, he writes down the words for his 20-minute set in full, rather than just a rough draft.

He said of his illness: "I have some bad days and some good days – but I'm as keen as ever to be on the road performing."

He and the rest of the Black Country Night Out show will

be performing at Solihull on October 4, the Garrick Theatre, Tamworth, on October 14, the Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock on October 20 and Huntingdon Hall, Worcester, on October 21. On November 12 they will be at the Barn Theatre, Witton, Birmingham and on November 18 at Dudley Concert Hall.

HEAT OF ANGER OVER FIRE PLAN

Residents are protesting against plans to close a Black Country fire station amid fears it will put lives at risk and leave the area poorly protected in an emergency.

Householders in Hagley Road, Huntingtree Road and Cherry Tree Lane, Halesowen, have launched campaigns demanding the town's fire station be kept open.

West Midlands Fire Service plans to merge the station with its counterpart in Cradley Heath which is expected to see the closure of both existing stations.

A replacement would be created on the border of both towns – but the service has confirmed that it will be served by only a single engine. Residents in the town have launched and signed petitions against the scheme and signs have now been put up at homes and businesses in the area. Placards will be put up outside some properties to raise awareness of the campaign.

Worker Pam Quartey said: "We have had a lot of people come in a fill out a card. Residents are very concerned about this plan."

Cherry Tree Lane resident Tony Barnsley, 43, said: "I have been involved in a number of campaigns through the years but I have never known people to be so unanimous in their opposition before."

Opposition

"We want the fire authority to review this decision. The fire service needs to feel the heat of the anger. Otherwise they will continue to close the station." Mr Barnsley said the petitions would be handed to the Fire Brigade Union, which is protestant against the plan, to be sent on to fire officials.

All Occasions Florists, on Hagley Road, also has small cards on which people can write their objections.

The fire service has already launched a consultation asking residents for their views on the plan. The service has said no plans are yet set in stone and they will listen to the views of residents before making a final decision.

Union – Page 14

Pub fun boosts football club



Paschendale FC manager Kevin Redmond, front, with, left to right, Tony Salt, Lorraine Eardley, Melanie Marks and Darren Redmond

A Rowley Regis pub hosted a day of family fun and football in aid of a local club.

The Sir Robert Peel pub in Rowley Village held fundraising activities for Paschendale FC that included a bouncy castle and face painting for the youngsters and a tennis tournament and darts competition for the adults.

Visitors then took part in a pub quiz.

Organiser and team manager Kevin Redmond said he was delighted with the turnout.

He added: "It costs more than you think to run a football club and with rising pitch fees we need to get the money in." Paschendale FC has 28 players in two teams.

Drink driver avoids an immediate prison term

A drunk driver caught by police who was nearly five times over the legal limit after travelling to a chip shop has been issued with a jail threat.

Justin Eberle was given an 18-week suspended sentence for drink driving 500 yards from the chip shop on Valley Road in Cradley Heath to his home on Haden Park Road on July 7.

A member of the public reported the 46-year-old's registration details to police and described him as "totally drunk", struggling to get out of his car before entering the chip shop and being unsteady on his feet. Sandwell Magistrates Court heard last week.

Officers traced Eberle back to his home, where he told police he had drunk only two-and-a-half pints.

But when he was breathalysed the officer described the reading as "the highest he had ever seen" at a level of 167 microgrammes in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit is set at 35mg.

Registration

Mrs Rachael Smith, prosecuting, said: "There was a report from the member of the public from the Valley Road chip shop saying the defendant was totally drunk."

"Officers traced the registration details and went to his home."

"When they interviewed him he said he went to fetch chips for his children and had only drunk two-and-a-half pints."

Mr Charles McNamara, defending, said: "He had an alcohol-related problem and there was no immediate danger to anyone else."

Magistrates added a 120-month supervision order and ordered Eberle to complete a drink drivers programme. He was banned from driving for four years and told to pay £85 court costs. He pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing.

Man bailed after church stabbing

A 51-year-old man who was arrested after a man was stabbed several times in a Halesowen graveyard has been bailed.

Police found the 29-year-old victim bleeding in the churchyard of St John the Baptist Church, off The Queensway, Halesowen, earlier this month.

His injuries were not thought to be life threatening.

Police said the 51-year-old had been bailed until late September while further inquiries were made.

A 54-year-old man also arrested in connection with the incident has been bailed until the same time.

No one has been charged. Police said investigations into the stabbing were ongoing.

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waste centre

A recycling project at Halesowen Leisure Centre has been hailed a success. Staff and customers have recycled more than 54 tons of rubbish since the scheme started two years ago.

The centre has collected nearly 1,000 bags of plastic bottles and 30 bins of waste paper which are collected by Sita UK and recycled into products including corrugated cardboard and tissue paper. The centre has also saved more than £1,500 through the reduction of waste.

Student delight over A success

Thousands of students across Dudley have been celebrating another year of top A-level results.

There were plenty of smiles as pupils throughout the borough flocked to their schools and colleges to find out their grades.

Among them were happy students at Dudley College which reported a 100 per cent pass rate in 26 subjects.

Sellami McKenzie, aged 18, of Clement Place, Bilston, achieved two As, a B and a D in law, maths, sociology and psychology. "I'm so pleased – I was sure I would fail one but I haven't," she said.

"I'm really looking forward to going off to uni now I don't have to worry any more – I'm going to the University of Kent to do law which will be great. I'm definitely off to celebrate."

Another happy student was Jack Weston, 18, of Prince Street, Cradley Heath, who achieved two As and a C in maths, accountancy and chemistry. "I am over the moon with it," he said.

Confirmed

He said he is now heading to Aberystwyth University in September to study maths. Principal Lowell Williams said the overall pass rate was 97 per cent. "This is an extremely pleasing set of results from the students studying in our A level Academy."

Meanwhile 27 students at Old Swinfold Hospital School in Stourbridge had extra reason to celebrate after achieving three or more A* or A grades.

The overall pass rate at the school was 99 per cent. Four students had their places confirmed at Oxbridge on the strength of their results, including Ross Williamson from Hagley who will study human sciences at Oxford University.

Students and staff at Edgcliff High School in Kinver were also marking record results.

Cheers, tears and celebrations echoed through King Edward VI College, Stourbridge, as students collected one of the most successful sets of results the school has ever seen.

Pupils shared hugs and frantically phoned their parents to let them know whether or not they had made the grade and would be off to university in the autumn.

Among the crowd was Sian Horseman, 19, who



Top students from King Edward VI College are, from left: Sam Fowkes, India Raybould, Sian Horseman and Jonathan Hunt

worked hard to get three A*s and two As after having to take a year out last year due to illness. "I'm very very pleased, especially after everything last year," she said.

Her subjects included law, business studies and geography, and her top marks now mean she can go on to study geography at the University of Birmingham and hopes eventually to become a geography teacher or a planner.

Meanwhile, new Oxbridge student Sam Fowkes, 18, of Highfield Crescent, Halesowen, learned he would be heading off to the University of Oxford to study philosophy, politics and economics after achieving one A* and two As. "It's just unbelievable – I'm absolutely thrilled," he said. "I called my mum and she started crying down the phone, she was so happy."

India Raybould, aged 20, of Long Close, Hagley, achieved one of the highest set of results at the college, getting four A*s and three As in subjects including history, sociology, psychology and general studies.

"I'm so surprised – I worked really hard but

never imagined I would get results like this," she said. She said thanks to her high grades, she has been accepted for a place at the University of Manchester to study psychology.

And Jonathan Hunt, 18, of Handley Close, Halesowen, achieved two A*s and three As in dance, English, psychology and biology. "I'm really pleased – English especially is a total surprise," he said. "I can go and study physiotherapy at Cardiff in September now."

Record

Overall, the college achieved a pass rate of 96.1 per cent and Halesowen announced record results with 98.6 per cent of students achieving a pass.

Katie Barwell, from Sedgley, was celebrating with her mother Jane as she achieved A grades in law, history and English literature and an A grade in AS communications.

The former pupil of Dormston School, aged 18, will now be studying English literature at Birmingham University.

Katie said: "I am delighted with my results, it



All smiles and celebrations from Aimee Millward, left, Rosa Denby and Emma Bate with fellow students from Dudley College's Broadway Campus

has been nerve wracking but I will definitely be celebrating later with my friends and family." Her mother added: "I am so pleased for Katie, she has worked extremely hard and really deserves this success."

Another student celebrating was Abhimanyu Jaiswal who is going on to study pharmacy at Aston University. The 18-year-old from Bearwood picked up his results today and achieved an A in maths, A in psychology, B in chemistry and an A in AS biology. He said: "I am looking forward to studying at Aston University and I am so pleased with my results."

Eighteen-year-old Danielle Newman achieved A grades in maths, psychology and law and a B in further maths. She will be studying psychology at Birmingham University.

Danielle, from Smethwick and a former pupil of Bristmaw High School, said: "I am so pleased with my results, we are all really high."

Principal Keith Bate said: "I am delighted with this record breaking year recognising the tremendous hard work and commitment of students."

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ANYONE on a diet should look away now, for this Victorian tearoom is not for the faint hearted. Laden with freshly-made cakes, sponges, shortbreads and flapjacks, the 110-year-old room in Wolverhampton's West Park has been run by Halesowen resident Lynn Jones since a revamp in 2005, has proved to be

very popular with customers. Mrs Jones, pictured here with catering assistant Meena Kumari, has worked in catering for 35 years and spends two hours baking every day at her home, for what she called her labour of love. "As soon as I walked in I knew that it was the place for me," she added.



Council in offer to sell extra green bins

Extra green bins and bags for people in Dudley who need to get rid of more garden rubbish will be going on sale in time for new collections beginning in September.

For £25, residents will be able to buy either a second green bin or two heavy-duty reusable bags, depending on collections in that area – although each house will be limited to just one order.

They will then have to pay an annual fee of £60 for the extra rubbish to be picked up.

Environmental services boss Councillor David Stanley said money generated by the optional new service would be ploughed back into paying for vehicle maintenance and wages.

"This is an extremely cost-effective and effortless way in which to dispose of additional green waste and I hope many people utilise this service," he said.

"Our green waste service is very popular and we know that some households will definitely benefit from being able to purchase an additional green bin or bag to assist them with disposing of their green waste."

Complaints

He said if people move home, they will also be able to take the bins or bags and transfer the extra collections to their new home.

The scheme will begin on September 1, although anyone interested will be able to buy the new bin in advance

as delivery will take up to two weeks.

Last year, Dudley Council introduced a controversial new system for bin collections in a drive to save £250,000.

The move limited the number of bags binmen were allowed to collect to just three, sparking more than 1,000 complaints from residents within the first week.

The money was clawed back by cutting the number of binmen per truck from four to three, ending the use of agency staff to cover shortages, and cutting down on the amount of rubbish being collected by encouraging recycling.

For more information or to order, call 0300 555 2345 or visit www.dudley.gov.uk/recycling

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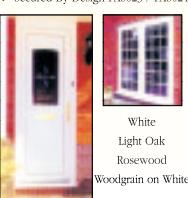
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Fears on homes plan at 800-year-old abbey

Historic artefacts at an 800-year-old abbey could be lost as work starts on new homes and a visitor centre there, campaigners have warned.

The Halesowen Abbey Trust is concerned that features could be

damaged when diggers move into the site later this year.

And members say they want to ensure that projects like this "never happen again".

It was revealed last week that work was due to start in the autumn on the development at the 800-year-old

abbey. The trust opposed the plans and, along with Rowley Regis and Halesowen MP James Morris, have called for an archaeological dig to be carried out before any building starts. The £500,000 project will see six barns turned into homes and a new visitor centre built.

Trust secretary Freer said: "All work requiring Scheduled Monument Consent should be carefully evaluated before agreeing to it, with protection of the integrity of the monument being a priority."

He warned that most of the barns overlay "the most sensitive area of archaeological interest".

Planning permission was granted in February for the work.

An English Heritage spokesman said: "The ruins of the abbey are scheduled as an ancient monument and some of the farmstead is listed."

A staff shortage stops Steven's denture business from beaming

A Dudley businessman who is helping to put a smile on the face of patients as far away as Spain is struggling to expand his dental business – despite being inundated with work.

National advertising campaigns for a dental prosthetics technician to join Steven Burchell's team have failed to generate a single application.

Clinical dental technician Mr Burchell, who runs the Denture Clinic, North Street, has been left stunned by the "wall of silence" in the jobs market.

He has advertised on a specialist dental technology website and in local newspapers.

He blames a burgeoning market in China that is flooding the UK with cheap prescriptions and fears it is now impacting on graduate training programmes.

Mr Burchell said: "The skills base is being compromised by a range of work being put out to foreign labs and that means our student trainees are struggling to

get vital placements that can fully develop their skills.

"Basically, I need someone who can produce high quality dentures, but I'm getting nowhere fast.

Believe

"I've completed my second month-long advertising campaign for a dental technician, offering competitive rates, and all I get is a wall of silence."

"I cannot believe how difficult it is to expand.

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and we're on the very cusp of clinical developments in Dudley."

Mr Burchell wants to expand his business into Wolverhampton.

"In recent months I've been building a new team but a pivotal role is an additional dental technician," he said.

"Our turnover forecast is up on last year, we have people travelling to us from as far away as Spain to get problems resolved and our laboratory is stacked out with work."

Anyone interested should call him on 01384 348594.

Stage set for classic

A Black Country theatre group will perform a version of classic novel The 39 Steps.

The play is a pastiche of the John Buchan book and incorporates elements of the film directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

Each actor plays multiple characters and few props are used.

Dudley Little Theatre will take the production to Netherton Arts Centre on September 7 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6.

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£10,000 blueprint for church revamp

A detailed blueprint costing up to £100,000 has been drawn up by parishioners desperate to renovate a Quarry Bank church.

New electronic bells with speakers installed in the bell tower could ring out as part of the transformation.

The restoration for Christ Church could be the catalyst to regenerate an ailing high street, say campaigners. The bell sounds would play out to create a more traditional ring on special occasions such as weddings and christenings.

Christ Church, off High Street, only has a single bell at the moment and church members feel the improved sound could boost numbers.

Various plans including both internal and external renovations have been identified by parishioners and members of the town's own friends group.

Chairman of the Friends of Quarry Bank, Brian Gennier, said the plans were exciting with everyone involved at the church.

Priority

"We have considered improving the peal or ring of the bells to make it more traditional sounding," he said. "We are actively looking at ways to improve both the visual and audible appearance of the church."

The church's organ is also in desperate need of work costing up to £50,000.

But Mr Gennier said there are fears it could have to be replaced altogether if works prove too costly.

Plaster works and general decorating have also been earmarked as a priority.

Church members are also keen to make more of the main body of the building for community use when services are not being held.

This will include installing removable pews and stage so the main hall becomes more multi-use.

"We want to be able to make more use of the church itself and these are just some of the ideas that we have come up with to do this," Mr Gennier said.

"I must reiterate that these are all simply ideas which we have drawn up at this stage."

Mr Gennier says full plans will be submitted to Dudley Council's planning document and the Diocese of Worcester in the coming months.

Back to school for charity



'Headmaster' Tony McGee and his daughter, Hayley McGee, get out their costumes for the Mary Stevens Hospice Back to Skool disco

Grown-ups can don their old uniform and revisit their school days at a Back to Skool disco to raise cash for Mary Stevens Hospice.

Sounds of the 60s, provided by Pegasus Entertainment, will flood the dancefloor at Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club on September 16, under the watchful eye of 'headmaster' Tony McGee.

A tuck shop offering a range of penny sweets and snacks will be open and a traditional dinner lady will be serving dishes full of pink sponge and ice cream.

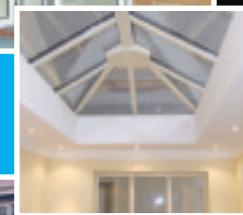
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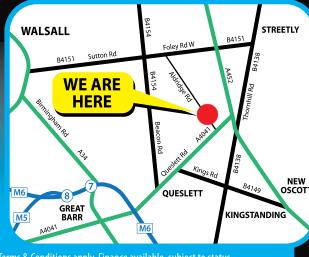
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Wendy back at home after her gruelling climb

Cancer fight leads to mountain climb

Just six months ago, sporty university researcher Wendy Nicholls sat reeling in a doctor's chair as they broke the news – she was suffering with skin cancer.

A whirlwind few weeks followed as she underwent an operation to remove the mole and any tissue which may have been affected, and biopsies were taken to test whether the disease had spread.

But the 31-year-old, who is a member of the Dudley-Kingswinford Running Club, has now fought her way back to fitness – and earlier this month conquered the 15,774ft-high Mont Blanc for charity.

"One day I just noticed that a mole on my arm was bleeding. I didn't think much of it but when it happened again a couple of weeks later, I thought I should get it

checked," said Miss Nicholls, of Penn, Wolverhampton.

"The doctor told me it was probably nothing to worry about so when they called me in to Russells Hall Hospital I just went on my own. I was stunned."

She was immediately whisked off to be screened for MRSA, and went under the knife a week later, on February 23.

"They took so much off, it just felt like one of those tight blood pressure monitors strapped around my arm all the time." She then had to undergo an operation to test her lymph nodes to see whether the cancer had spread – and luckily, it hadn't.

"That's when I decided to do something big to raise money – and Mont

Blanc just seemed like the best choice," she said. "After several weeks of not being able to do anything, my fitness levels had dropped so I started doing short runs with the Dudley-Kingswinford Running Club again, and joined the West Bromwich Mountaineering Club where they really helped prepare me for the climb. It was the scariest thing I have ever had to do in my life but I'm so proud of myself for getting out there and not letting this beat me."

The three-day climb has raised £831.38 and she is aiming for £1,000 to donate to cancer charity Macmillans.

To donate to Wendy's efforts, visit the website which can be found at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/wendynicholls>



Wendy arms aloft on her ascent of Mont Blanc

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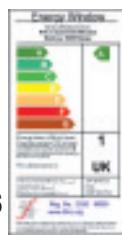


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Couple back from day out find crash damage

A retired couple returned from a day out to find a car had ploughed into the front of their house – putting the building at risk of collapse.

Fire crews and paramedics were called to Kent Road, Halesowen, after the Renault Clio left the road and careered into the semi-detached property, which was empty at the time. It had skidded across two gardens before smashing into a parked car. It ended up hitting the house beneath the bay window.

Retired long distance lorry driver Barry Brian, aged 63, had taken his wife Janet for a drive when they were called by their son Daniel after the crash at about 11.30am on Monday. The driver of the car, an 18-year-old woman, had to be treated at the scene by paramedics. She suffered a deep cut where her seatbelt had dug in. Another woman, also 18, who was a passenger in the vehicle, was also treated for minor injuries.

Both were taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, for further assessment and treatment.

Collision

Structural engineers shored up the building to prevent any risk of collapse.

The structure of a bay window was broken in the collision and brick work was also knocked loose.

Mr Brian said: "You can't get angry about these things. We are covered by insurance and the main thing is that no-one was badly hurt. It looked quite horrific when we got back and saw the car being winched away but there's nothing that can be done about it now."

Fire crews were called to the scene and stayed for around two hours to make the vehicle safe.

Crew commander Andy Steadman said: "The vehicle collided with the front of the house knocking out the window and causing heavy damage to the front."

A series of talks at Halesowen Library will launch on September 28 with David Baker on the history of the Black Country Museum.

On October 26 Terry Church will speak about growing up in a Black Country Village and, on November 23, John Billingham will present images of Worcestershire.

Keith Cleton's subject on January 25 will be a walk through Birmingham city centre.



Damage to the house

Library is talk venue

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Knitters donate baby clothes to hospital



Morris and Gwen White, front, with back, l-r, Lillian Foster, manager Lisa Geddes, recreational and leisure organisers Matthew Pound, Jill Haden and Aileen Lunn

A knitting group is making its first donation of baby clothing to Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital.

The cardigans, hats and blankets will be taken to the neo-natal unit for little babies born prematurely.

They have been made by residents and staff at Broadway Halls Care Home in Dudley. Their families have also chipped in and given time to help make some of the clothing.

All together they have created around 30 cardigans, 50 hats and 25 blankets which will be delivered to the hospital. Jill Haden, who is the activities co-ordinator at the care home in The Broadway, said some of the women began knitting scarves before moving onto baby clothes two months ago.

She said: "The ladies were getting a bit bored of just knitting scarves so I had a look on the internet and saw that they could do tiny baby clothes."

Traders worry over changes on parking

TRADERS say they will be forced out of business if plans for parking bays outside their Black Country shops are given the go-ahead.

More than 600 people have signed a petition in a bid to challenge Dudley Council's proposals to install double yellow lines outside shops in Howley Grange Lane, Halesowen.

Around 70 roads in the town could be given parking bays or restrictions as part of a scheme devised by council transport bosses. Officials say the proposals were drawn up in response to complaints about parking in the streets.

Plans would mean double yellow lines would start at Howley Grange Lane at the junction with Frankley Avenue.

Extending

Lines would be painted along one side of the road before extending into Spies Lane and Shenstone Valley Road. A parking bay is proposed along the opposite side of the road.

Chip shop owner Kulvinder Khela, aged 40, has helped organise the petition. "Times are so tough at the moment and we do not need this as well," he said.

Resident Ian Cooper, 45, a member of the Halesowen Labour group, added: "Hundreds of signatures were collected within just a couple of weeks which shows the strength of feeling for people around here."

Transport bosses say there is room for revisions to the plans.

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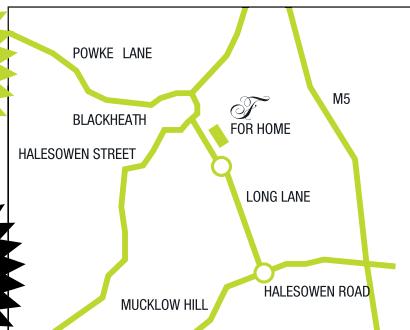
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Charity searches for volunteers

A DUDLEY charity is looking for volunteers to work with vulnerable people. The Dudley Advocacy voluntary project is recruiting people to help the needy with day-to-day activities and act as confidantes to help them with a number of tasks.

Helpers will be required to make phone calls, pursue complaints and also chat to vulnerable and disabled people. Full training is given and no experience is necessary. For more information or to get involved, people can call Karen Jones on 01384 456877.

Where Yugo, Ian goes – even out to Serbia

A CLASSIC car club in the Black Country set up to preserve a rare Communist vehicle could be linking up with fellow enthusiasts in Serbia.

Vehicle inspector Ian Macaulay, from Brierley Hill, has a passion for the quirky Yugoslavian produced Zastava-Yugo.

The 53-year-old has since been contacted by a host of people across the country and even by UK club members now plan to drive their Yugos to the factory where they were built in Serbia.

Anyone wishing to find out more about the club can call 07732 054569.

Pub reopening date is delayed

RE-OPENING of a landmark Black Country pub has been delayed after bosses went back to the drawing boards on plans to refurbish the empty site.

The Thorns Pub in Quarry Bank was expected to open its doors late last month as Marston's Brewery was eager to have the building up and running again.

But the brewery said the refurbishment scheme had taken slightly longer than planned to finalise and work was now not expected to begin until next month.

The revamp for the pub in Thorns Road will include al fresco dining area.

An opening date has not yet been confirmed by the brewery but a schedule is expected to be released shortly after the work is completed later on in the year.

The pub's carvery, which was well-known across the Black Country, will also return once the pub re-opens after its interior refurbishment is completed.

Empty

A new licensee to take over the day-to-day running of the pub has not been officially confirmed.

A spokesman for Marston's said: "We are currently in the process of tweaking the plans for the refurbishment of the Thorns pub.

"However this process has taken slightly longer than we initially planned.

"We are now hoping to be on site in September to commence the planned works."

The pub has stood empty since January after the brewery reclaimed it from previous licensee Paul Skitt, who had run the site since 2002.

It shut its doors due to declining trade and spiralling costs which Mr Skitt said had made it impossible to continue.

Before its closure, The Thorns was one of the area's best-known pubs notable for an eye-catching mural of rock stars painted on an outside wall.

The brewery previously said interest in taking over the pub had been high and a recruitment process was ongoing to find a suitable tenant for the pub.

At its height, the pub was also well-known for its music nights and won a series of awards.

Moves to bring in more visitors

Extra craft displays and demonstrations will be held at a Black Country centre on Saturdays to attract more visitors and give more artists a chance to show their work.

The first expanded opening event at the Ruskin Glass Centre, Wollaston Road, Amblecote, will take place next Saturday. Around 10 additional artists will be on site on the last Saturday of every month. Demonstrations will be held to give visitors a glimpse into how each piece is created and the ideas behind designs. All 17 permanently artists based at the centre will also be open during the events.

The first event will run from 11am to 4pm.

Corking results for vineyard



Martin Vickers of Halfpenny Green Vineyard in Bobbington is celebrating winning five national wine awards with marketing officer Jennifer Sheriff

A POPULAR Midland vineyard is cracking open its award-winning haul from a national contest.

Halfpenny Green Vineyards in Bobbington, South Staffordshire, scooped five awards at the 2011 English and Welsh Wine of the Year competition.

It was awarded silver for its white English sparkling wine, the Halfpenny Green Sparkling, and single variety Schönburger Long Acre.

Bronzes were presented for the 2006 Halfpenny Green Pink Sparkling; single variety Huxelrebe called Tom Hill and medium-dry

New KFC signs are in pipeline

Plans to put up signs outside a new Halesowen restaurant have been submitted to the council. If given the go ahead, they would be put up outside a KFC which is being built as part of a Travelodge on Earls Way. A planning application has been submitted to Dudley Council.

Car boot chaos blocks the road

POLICE were forced to stop bargain hunters entering a car boot sale near Dudley after it attracted hundreds more people than normal, leading to traffic chaos on surrounding roads.

Hundreds of cars queued to get into the field in Himley, off the busy A449 Stourbridge Road, causing lengthy tailbacks. Organisers said more people had flocked to the site than normal on Sunday because another car boot sale nearby did not take place.

Police were forced to divert traffic away from Col's Car Boot Sale on the B4176 Himley Bypass for around two hours. Bosses said they were taking steps to avoid a repeat this Sunday by opening an overspill car park on an adjacent field.

Gavin Williamson, MP for South Staffordshire, said: "We need to get officials together because this is a recurring problem with car boot sales. People are becoming prisoners in their own homes."

Car boot sale organiser Colin Turley said: "It was just volume of traffic. We have another field now where we can put an overspill car park."

Power up, play time

CONTRACTORS finished work at a Halesowen country park – and then installed play equipment for children.

The toddlers' play area at Waseley Hills Country Park, near Romsley, in Halesowen, has had the revamp courtesy of National Grid.

Recently refurbishments to

pylons which feed Birmingham have been carried out by the power company. On completion of the work, National Grid made a donation to the Countryside Service as compensation for the disruption caused.

This money was used to pay

for the new kit in the toddlers'

overhead power cables and play area.

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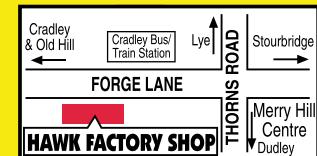
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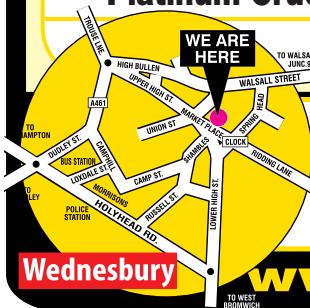
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Why it's hall or nothing to make the right impression

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Give the stairs a sanding with coarse sandpaper. Wipe away any dust and dirt afterwards using a soft damp cloth, and ensure stairs are dry before continuing.

For a smooth, long-lasting finish, apply one coat of floor paint.

Allow to dry for five hours, then add a second coat and leave to dry for a further six hours.

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SAND AND REVEAL: Sanding old floorboards is one of the cheapest ways to



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give a hall a new look, says TV presenter Jo Behari, who hosts Channel 4's Make Do And Mend programme.

Open any windows and exterior doors.

Seal with floor varnish such as Ronseal diamond hard floor varnish, from £21.98 for 750ml (www.diy.com) 0845 850 0175).

MAKE A GALLERY: Give a collection of old picture frames a new lease of life by painting them, and either displaying them empty, or pop in postcards and photos that can be easily changed. The hall is also a great place to display children's artwork.

For a flawless finish, sand frames first, then use a coat of primer, before applying paint. ProAqua eggshell paint, £26 for 750ml, from Earthborn Paints (www.earthbornpaints.co.uk) 01928 734 171).

CLUTTER SOLUTION:

Ample storage is vital in a hall so it's easy to put away shoes, bags and outdoor kit.

The Holding Company's six-basket console unit, £345, complete with woven linen baskets, is good looking, roomy and adds the finishing touch to a hallway transformation (www.theholdingcompany.co.uk) 020 8445 2888).

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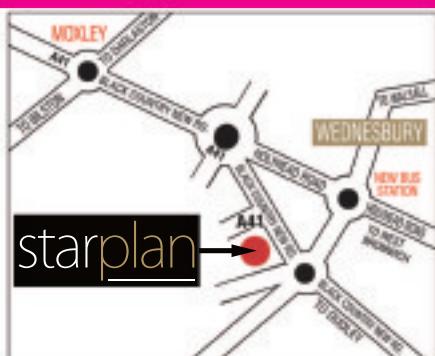
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Teach pupils how to save lives say family

Care getting a £10m increase

HOSPITAL bosses in Dudley will spend more than £10.5million on new equipment to help improve care over the next three years.

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Russells Hall and the Guest hospitals in Dudley and Corbett in Stourbridge, will invest £2.5m in 2011/12 and the same amount in 2012/13 and 2013/14. Staff are being asked for their views on what equipment is needed.

A further £2.2m will be spent on new imaging equipment used to carry out body scans. A further £502,000 will be paid out in 2012/13 and £365,000 in 2013/14.

The proposals are outlined in the trust's forward plan, which it has submitted to independent regulator Monitor. The report says: "The trust needs to ensure that it has imaging equipment that incorporates the latest technology. Over the next three years, 10 pieces of imaging equipment will be replaced."

The parents of Halesowen heart transplant girl Jasmine Page whose life was saved by first-aiders at her school are backing a campaign to ensure all pupils are taught life-saving skills.

Andy and Saundra Page, of Hunnington Drive, say the subject should be as important as teaching children their times tables. Jasmine, now aged 13, was saved by staff who gave her cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

She had suffered a heart attack in the corridor at Halesowen's Windsor High School in January.

She then became the first person to undergo heart transplant at Birmingham Children's Hospital, which was carried out there by surgeons who travelled from London's Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Mr and Mrs Page are now supporting a campaign by the British Heart Foundation and Resuscitation Council UK to make CPR



Transplant – Jasmine Page

lessons compulsory in schools. "Knowing how to stop bleeding or perform CPR should be as important as learning times tables," said Mr Page, aged 47.

"Windsor High School already does this and I know Jasmine learned it in Year 7."

"But currently not all children leave school having learned the basic skills that could save a life in an emergency."

"Immediate CPR, delivered at the scene, can double or even triple the chances of survival after a cardiac arrest."

He and Mrs Page, 44, are urging people to add their names to a petition calling for the compulsory teaching of CPR, which can be found on the British Heart Foundation's website at bhf.org.uk

The procedure, which involves chest compressions and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, kept Jasmine's blood flowing and stopped her suffering brain damage during the crucial minutes before paramedics arrived.

Guidance

Among others supporting the British Heart Foundation campaign is pop legend Shakin' Stevens, best known for 1980s hits This Ole House and Green Door.

He suffered a cardiac arrest last year and was saved by his partner, Sue Davies, who carried out CPR under guidance from the phone operator. "People need to be more aware," he said.

Stations to shut despite objections

PLANS to close Halesowen and Cradley Heath fire stations will go ahead despite a consultation process.

FBU bosses say West Midlands Fire Service has admitted that reversing the decision to close the two stations is not up for discussion at public consultation meetings next month. The fire service wants to merge the stations. The move would mean the loss of one of the 24-hour fire crews in the area.

The union says that at least 28 frontline firefighter posts could be affected.

FRU West Midlands regional secretary Chris Downes said: "Lives will be put at risk because how can you deal with one incident in Halesowen and another in Cradley Heath?"

Fire Service spokeswoman Lindsey Preece said: "The decision to merge the stations was taken by the fire authority back in 2009."

A public meeting will take place on September 1 at Lutley Community Centre, Brookwillow Road, Halesowen.

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For 26 years, Cousins has been one of the leading family owned furniture retailers of its kind in the UK...

and now employs more than 140 people. During that time, the Company has continued to expand both in terms of the number of stores and the choice available.

Set up by three cousins, Robert, Edward and William, the Company now employs a second generation of the family at its three stores in Birmingham/Solihull, Dudley and Manchester, providing continuity for customers and a wealth of product knowledge.

Robert and Edward remain very actively involved in the business, with Robert as the company Chairman. They have recently strengthened the management team to ensure the continued future success of the company.

John Shotton, Robert's eldest son, who has worked at Cousins since 1994, is now Managing Director. John has enjoyed an extensive retailing career and 17 years ago, joined Cousins.

Matt Shotton, Robert's youngest son, started at Cousins in 1997 and has worked in most areas of the business. He is Retail Director with full responsibility for bed buying - and overall control of the Company's three large retail Stores.

Richard Foster is Operations Director and has been with Cousins for 15 years. He initially started as a bedding consultant when Cousins opened their second store in Dudley in 1996 and has been involved in most areas of the business.

Edward's son **Thomas Shotton**, helps to manage the Dudley store along with **Roger Horner**, who joined Cousins from the opening of the Dudley store in 1996.

The original store and warehouse in Birmingham opened in 1985. **Pat Shiels** has recently been appointed Store Manager of the Birmingham store and brings a wealth of retail experience to the company.

In 1996, the Company expanded further, creating a landmark store in Dudley. This expansion continued with the opening of a third flagship store on Regent Road in Salford, Manchester in 2005. The store, was opened by stars of Coronation Street



Standing from left to right, Thomas and Matthew Shotton, Richard Foster. Sitting Edward, Robert and John Shotton.

and has been widely acclaimed as England's finest furniture store. It is managed by **David Fisher**, who has extensive experience of furniture retailing.

The Company is now celebrating its' 26 years in furniture retailing and despite the difficult economic climate, Managing Director John Shotton is looking forward with confidence.

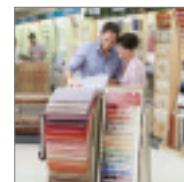
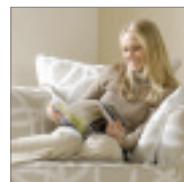
He said "In these days of large chains, we are still very much a family business - and our success over previous years has been built on offering high quality personal service to our customers and the widest selection of designer living room, dining room, bedroom, kitchen and flooring ranges from leading manufacturers - at prices that customers can afford.

The last 26 years have been a great period for the Company and the whole family are justifiably proud of how far we have come," he said. "We have a fantastic team of staff, some of whom have been here since we opened our doors in 1985. We couldn't have become such a success without their continual hard work and dedication.

The staff at our stores in Birmingham, Dudley and Manchester are looking forward to showing you the latest designs from our suppliers and helping us to celebrate our 26th anniversary while looking forward to another 26 years.

For a sneak preview, why not go to our new page at www.facebook.co.uk/cousinsfurniture which already has over 2,500 followers - or our website at www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk

26 Cousins 26th Anniversary Event 26



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Boost for hospice by epic cycle across US



Richard at the finish in Florida with his friend Ian Dodd



Richard Slusarczyk, aged 52

A former Black Country man now living in the USA has completed an epic 3,000 mile Trans-Am cycle ride for a Black Country hospice.

Richard Slusarczyk, formerly of Brierley Hill who now lives in Phoenix, Arizona, gave family and friends on both continents updates via a regular internet blog.

Mr Slusarczyk, aged 52, even suffered a painful crash when he fell off his bike on a bridge over the Mississippi.

He started his ride at Disneyland, in California, on May 15, finishing the trip on July 7 in Florida.

He rode his beloved Bianchi bike which is used by riders on the Tour de France.

More than £1,900 has been raised towards Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Hospice which the family has supported for years.

His route was called the Trans-Am

Ride which involved Richard starting with his rear bike wheel in the Pacific Ocean and completing the adventure when his front wheel was dinned in the Atlantic.

The keen Wolves fan was joined by friend Ian Dodd for the trip.

His sister Helen, aged 59, of Norton, Stourbridge, said: "Arriving at Disney Florida, he was greeted by many English holiday makers in Florida, amazed at his achievement."

Goal

Rotarians in America provided him with accommodation.

And Mr Slusarczyk said: "They all had the same message, don't waiver from the goal, you're almost there."

"I simply don't worry, I'm from the Black Country."

"We don't waiver and we don't flinch when the going gets tough."

Read more about his ride at www.america2endbybike.wordpress.com

Man sentenced

An 18-year-old who stole lead and copper from an empty Sedgley house has been told to carry out 100 hours unpaid work and given a curfew for three months.

Dean Groom and another man were seen on the garage roof at the property in Round Hill at 5.50am on June 26. Dudley magistrates heard power tools, lead, copper and alcohol

were taken. Police also found him in a van in Springfield Avenue, Dudley, on July 5 with 35 sheets of lead flashing inside.

Organisers hope thousands of visitors will turn out for this year's Classic Car and Transport Show at Himley Hall, near Dudley, on Saturday September 4.

Around 800 vehicles from across the region line up on the lawns of the hall for the

event now in its 12th year. Vehicles dating back to the 1920s are among the cars exhibiting.

Enthusiasts from across the region will be competing to win one of 19 categories during the day.

Gates open between 10am and 5pm. Admission is priced at £6 for adults and pensioners and £2 for children. Free onsite car parking will be available.

Classic cars on show

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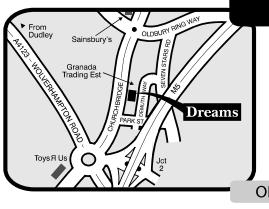
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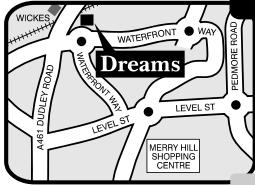
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www.sandwell.gov.uk contact@sandwell.gov.uk 0845 359 7501
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thechronicle



Workers plan the next stage of the demolition of the old Quarry Bank Primary School to make way for a sports pitch, garden and car park

Demolition underway at 76-year-old school

Demolition work has begun at a former Quarry Bank Primary School as part of a £7.6 million revamp of the site.

The old building is making way for a new sports pitch, garden and car park.

A new school has already been built next to the old site and is ready for children to start in September.

The old school in the High Street, which dates back to 1935, was no longer fit for purpose after the walls began crumbling.

Workers have been taking down brickwork in stages.

The gradual demolition is under way to reduce the risk of damaging the nearby school buildings.

Timber and tiles were first stripped from the roof and recycled.

Contractors Bowmen and Kirkland plan to have all the work done by the start of the new term on September 5.

Site manager Brian Appleby said: "Work is progressing well and we are on target to finish on time.

Remove

"As everything went to plan so far we had time to remove some of the materials gradually and recycle them."

Most classrooms at the new school will have external teaching areas and the school will be energy efficient through the use of solar panels and triple-glazed windows.

The school's recently-built children's centre will remain on the site as will the listed Victorian caretaker's house.

Dudley Council said the present school building was no longer fit for purpose and needed a revamp.

The school will be equipped with state-of-the-art technology and IT systems. Architectural designs have been drawn up to allow as much natural light in to the new building as possible. The new premises will contain a nursery for 45 children and two classrooms for children with language learning difficulties, which will each hold 12 students. A 49-space car park will be created alongside a sports field, playgrounds and school garden.

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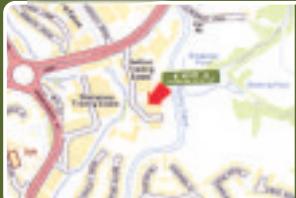
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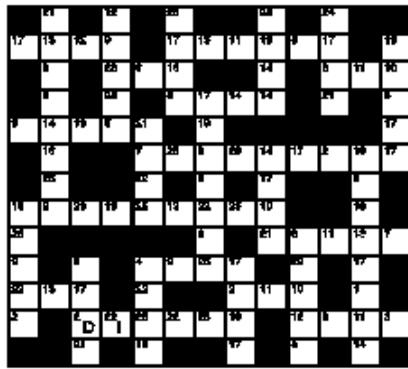


Brain Gym

No.131

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

U	C	I	R	J	G	O	N	W	E	P	D	K
V	A	H	L	X	Z	Y	B	T	F	S	M	Q

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Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?


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Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both in the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Presumably it's bent on breaking the law (6,6)
2. Said a telegram for a conductor (5)
3. Language used in telling off (5)
5. Shells among the candidates (5)
10. Olive for a weapon to use in the dark? (5,4)
11. A result of some consequence (6)
12. Police a hand to a superior? (6)
15. There's a lot to be said for having (9)
17. Turn you can't live without? (3)
18. Beard and love (5,2)
19. Click with the beaver about your (5)
21. Hand descriptive of the time or that demand particular (5,6,3)

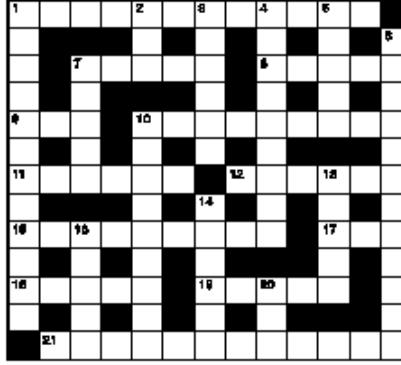
Quick Clues:

Across

1. Roost (12)
2. Society (5)
3. Cleric (5)
5. Finish (5)
10. Hazardous (5)
11. Emotional shock (6)
12. Rigorous (6)
15. Clerks (9)
17. Knot (3)
18. Translucent gem (5)
19. Porter (5)
21. Accidental (12)

Down

1. A sort of split charge? (6,6)
2. Some amiable form of transport (3)
3. It's not usually remembered (3,3)
4. Unable to relax in its sole, perhaps? (5,2,4)
5. Abolish article, relating from the yearbook (5)
6. Criminal intimacy man who's not single (6,6)
7. Bulbous preventing the albatross being detected (5)
10. Lot can run off during the night (5)
13. Custom of employing American time (5)
14. Child reading part of Captain Fantastic (5)
16. Imprecise sort of route (5)
20. Anger or one taking artificial instruction (5)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
 CRYPTIC - Across: 4. Train A, 8. Answer, 10. Blister, 11. Blister, 12. Full hot, 15. Tidies, 20. Outbox, 21. Sibyl, 22. Endless, 23. Vixen, 24. Vixen, 25. Gavel, 1. Sibyl, 2. Endless, 3. Gavel, 4. Blister, 5. Blister, 6. Tidies, 7. Outbox, 8. Answer, 9. Blister, 10. Sibyl, 11. Blister, 12. Full hot, 13. Tidies, 14. Outbox, 15. Answer, 16. Sibyl, 17. Answer, 18. Endless, 19. Gavel, 20. Outbox, 21. Sibyl, 22. Endless, 23. Vixen, 24. Vixen, 25. Gavel, 26. Vixen, 27. Outbox, 28. Answer, 29. Sibyl, 30. Endless, 31. Blister, 32. Full hot, 33. Tidies, 34. Answer, 35. Blister, 36. Sibyl, 37. Gavel, 38. Vixen, 39. Outbox, 40. Answer, 41. Sibyl, 42. Endless, 43. Blister, 44. Tidies, 45. Vixen, 46. Answer, 47. Blister, 48. Sibyl, 49. Gavel, 50. Vixen, 51. Outbox, 52. Answer, 53. Sibyl, 54. Endless, 55. Blister, 56. Tidies, 57. Vixen, 58. Answer, 59. Blister, 60. Sibyl, 61. Gavel, 62. Vixen, 63. Outbox, 64. Answer, 65. Sibyl, 66. Endless, 67. Blister, 68. Tidies, 69. Vixen, 70. Answer, 71. 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Outbox, 1011. Answer, 1012. Blister, 1013. Sibyl, 1014. Gavel, 1015. Vixen, 1016. Outbox, 1017. Answer, 1018. Blister, 1019. Sibyl, 1020. Gavel, 1021. Vixen, 1022. Outbox, 1023. Answer, 1024. Blister, 1025. Sibyl, 1026. Gavel, 1027. Vixen, 1028. Outbox, 1029. Answer, 1030. Blister, 1031. Sibyl, 1032. Gavel, 1033. Vixen, 1034. Outbox, 1035. Answer, 1036. Blister, 1037. Sibyl, 1038. Gavel, 1039. Vixen, 1040. Outbox, 1041. Answer, 1042. Blister, 1043. Sibyl, 1044. Gavel, 1045. Vixen, 1046. Outbox, 1047. Answer, 1048. Blister, 1049. Sibyl, 1050. Gavel, 1051. Vixen, 1052. Outbox, 1053. Answer, 1054. Blister, 1055. Sibyl, 1056. Gavel, 1057. Vixen, 1058. Outbox, 1059. Answer

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Included excursions:

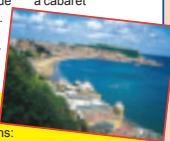
- North Yorkshire Moors and Whitby
- York
- Bridlington & Beverley

5 Days • 4 Nights:

12 September from £199.95

4 Days • 3 Nights including excursions:

North Yorkshire Moors & Whitby • York - 02 Sept from £129.95



Hereford & the 'River in the Sky' Llangollen Canal Aqueduct

We take you firstly to beautiful Hereford. Here you can discover the fine architecture and the magnificent cathedral. Dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation is included tonight. On day 2 we take you to Llangollen. Here we have included a cruise along the canal taking you on the famous aqueduct which is over 126 feet high.



2 Days • 1 Night: 03 September from £79.95

Pontins Super Breaks

Southport - set next to a great beach - 19 September

Bream Sands - breathtaking West Country seaside resort location - 05 September

Prestatyn - set between the rolling hills of Wales and miles of award winning beaches - 19 September

Camber Sands - set next to a long sandy beach near Rye - 29 August, 12 September & 24 October

5 Days • 4 Nights: Adults from £99.95 - Kids from £69.95



Eastbourne • Glastonbury Hotel

Enjoy 5 days at the popular resort famous for its flower decked promenade and gardens, beaches and excellent facilities.

The Glastonbury Hotel is located on the Royal Parade.

Included excursions:

- Brighton
- Hastings & the old Cinque Port of Rye

5 Days • 4 Nights:

12 September from £179.95



Scottish Majesty

Loch Ness & the Isle of Skye

Based at the town of Dingwall, close to the Cromarty Firth this is a great way to see some of Scotland's spectacular scenery. The National Hotel is set in the heart of town.

Included excursions:

- Loch Ness & Inverness
- Plockton, Portree & Isle of Skye

5 Days • 4 Nights:

12 Sept from £189.95

24 Oct - from £169.95



Girls Getaway Weekend Copthorne Hotel, Cardiff

Treat yourself to a luxurious weekend away. Shop in central Cardiff before checking in to the 4* Copthorne Hotel. There is a health and leisure centre with a swimming pool, gym, sauna and whirlpool bath. Dinner is included. On day 2 the hotel have included a half hour beauty treatment. Return via the charming Cotswolds.

2 Days • 1 Night: 17 September from £99.95

Isle of Wight - Shanklin

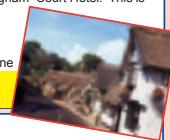
Shanklin boasts a long sandy beach which lies at the foot of spectacular cliffs. We stay at the Langham Court Hotel. This is set minutes from the sea front.

Included excursions:

- Half day visit to Godshill
- Full tour of the Island's coastline

4 Days • 3 Nights:

16 September from £129.95



Olympic Park & London's Historic East End

On day 1 we take you to historic Greenwich, see the Royal Observatory, discover the National Maritime Museum or wander through Greenwich Park.

On day 2 we head for Stratford and the East End. Here you can see the Olympic Park before it opens for the Games in 2012.

2 Days • 1 Night: 24 September from £99.95

Isle of Wight • Corner House Hotel

The Corner House is set in the glorious resort of Sandown within walking distance of the beach, pier and shops.

Included excursions:

- Traditional village of Godshill
- Newport - the Island's capital

4 Days • 3 Nights:

23 September & 14 October from £149.95



Don't risk it. Your holiday money is completely safe  **ABTA No. V1801**

from just £39.95

Blackpool Illuminations Break

Hotel La Tour

Blackpool is the North's biggest, brightest and best resort - packed with excitement and enjoyment. The Hotel La Tour is located in the centre of Blackpool.

3 Days • 2 Nights:

16 Sept & 28 Oct from £89.95

5 Days • 4 Nights:

19 Sept & 03 Oct from £149.95



Loch Lomond & the Trossachs

Rob Roy Hotel

Enjoy the magnificent splendour of Scotland's loch and mountain scenery. The Rob Roy Hotel has a rural setting on the outskirts of Aberfoyle.

Included excursions:

- Edinburgh
- Lomond
- Railway journey from Tarbert to Fort William on the West Highland line

5 Days • 4 Nights:

22 September from £249.95



Weymouth • Russell Hotel

The glorious resort of Weymouth is set on a breathtaking Georgian Bay surrounded by rolling hills. The Russell Hotel is positioned on the sea front close to the shops etc.

Included excursions:

- Chesil Beach, Abbotsbury & Lyme Regis
- Poole and Sandbanks

4 Days • 3 Nights:

23 Sept & 07 Oct from £179.95



London & Brighton Europa Hotel, Gatwick

Enjoy a weekend break taking in fashionable, bustling London and a chance to catch a breath of sea air at Brighton. Stay at the Europa Hotel. Features include a leisure club with heated indoor pool, spa and sauna.

2 Days • 1 Night:

10 September from £59.95

Sundays: 18 Sept, 16 Oct, 18 Dec from £39.95



Bournemouth - Heathlands Hotel

31 October - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £169.95

Liverpool - Adelphi Hotel

31 October - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £179.95

Newquay & St Ives - Godolphin Arms Hotel

31 October - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £149.95

Folkestone - Grand Burstin Hotel

04 November - 3 Days • 2 Nights - from £99.95

Newquay Turkey & Tinsel Special Edgcumbe Hotel

07 November - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £199.95

Newquay - 3* Esplanade Hotel

07 November - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £199.95

Pontins Turkey & Tinsel Special - Southport

07 November - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £99.95

Folkestone - Grand Burstin Hotel

11 November - 3 Days • 2 Nights - from £99.95

Scroggling the Holly Weekend - Howarth

12 November - 2 Days • 1 Night - from £79.95

Weston Super Mare Carnival

13 November - 3 Days • 2 Nights - from £119.95

Pontins Turkey & Tinsel Special - Prestatyn

14 November - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £119.95

Christmas Shopping, Lunch & Entertainment at Norbreck Castle Hotel

15 November - Day Trip - from £30.95

Blackpool Christmas Cabaret Weekend

19 November - 2 Days • 1 Night - from £49.95

Liverpool Pre-Christmas Super Deal

21 November - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £179.95

Sand Bay Holiday Village

near Weston Super Mare - Full Board Turkey & Tinsel

21 November - 4 Days • 3 Nights - from £229.95

Ludlow Mediaeval Fair & Chester

26 November - 2 Days • 1 Night - from £89.95

Bath Christmas Shopper & visit to Clarke's Shopping Village

05 November & 3 December - 2 Days • 1 Night from £79.95

City of Durham Christmas Festival & visit to the Metro Centre

03 December - 2 Days • 1 Night - from £89.95

Spirit of Christmas

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Liverpool - Adelphi Hotel

21 November - 5 Days • 4 Nights - from £179.95

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05 November & 3 December - 2 Days • 1 Night from £79

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HALESOWEN, HUNTLANDS ROAD

Located on the Huntlands Estate, is this three-story terraced property, close to Halesowen town centre, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Double Glazing, Warm Air Heating, Family Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking

£695 PCM



BEARWOOD, WIGORN ROAD

Ideally located for commuting to Birmingham, and close to Worley Woods, is this mid-terraced home, comprising of: Two Bedrooms and a Study, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Shower Room, Outside WC, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, On Road, Parking, Unfurnished

£650 PCM



OLDBURY, SUFFOLK ROAD

A part furnished to suit detached property in popular residential area, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Shower Room and Separate Dining Room, Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front and Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking and Garage

£650 PCM



HALESOWEN, QUEEN STREET

Situated within walking distance to Halesowen town centre is this large three-story property, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Very Large Lounge, Large Fitted Kitchen, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Downstairs, Bathroom with Shower, Driveway Parking, Unfurnished

£595 PCM



HAGLEY, MILL POOL CLOSE

Located in a peaceful location with lovely views is this unfurnished luxury three-story apartment, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Through Lounge/Diner, Room with View, Access, Open Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower and Separate WC, Communal Gardens, Parking Space and Garage

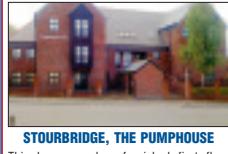
£595 PCM



LINKS CRESCENT, OLDBURY

Set in a quiet residential area, having been recently decorated, is this lovely unfurnished mid-terraced property, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Very Large Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Washing Machine, Shower Room, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front and Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking

£595 PCM



STOURBRIDGE, THE PUMPHOUSE

This luxury modern furnished first floor apartment briefly comprises of: One Double Bedroom, Spacious Open Plan Lounge, High Spec Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Storage Heating, Parking Space.

£575 PCM



HALESOWEN, WILTSHIRE DRIVE

Located on the Homer Hill Estate, is this well present semi-detached home, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms with Fitted Wardrobes, Spacious Lounge, Dining Room, Family Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front and Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking, Unfurnished

£575 PCM



QUINTON, LAPAL MANOR COURT

This beautifully Unfurnished third floor apartment, close to local motorway access, briefly comprises of: Gas Central Heating, Large Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Secure Allocated Parking behind Electric Gates, Contemporary style

£550 PCM



HALESOWEN, HIGHLAND HOUSE

Located just off Long Lane, is the very large, fully refurbished first floor flat, comprising of: Two Large Bedrooms, New Fitted Kitchen, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Allocated Parking, Garage, Communal Gardens

£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, BLOOMFIELD STREET NORTH

An extremely well presented two bedroomed terraced house being situated within easy access to Halesowen town, briefly comprising of: Lounge with Feature Fireplace, Kitchen, Diner, Large Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, First Floor Family Bathroom, Charming Rear Garden, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, On Road Parking, Internal Inspection is Highly Recommended, Unfurnished

£525 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, ELBOW STREET

Another opportunity to rent a 3rd floor apartment, close to local transport links, comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Parking Space and Communal Gardens, Popular Location, Unfurnished

£475 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, PEAR TREE LANE

This lovely unfurnished modern ground floor apartment, located in a popular area, and close to local train station and buses, comprises of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms with Fitted Wardrobes, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Parking Space

£475 PCM



NETHERTON, ROUND STREET

Set in a quiet road, is this lovely semi-detached house, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden and Driveway Parking for 2 Cars, Unfurnished

£475 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, VICTORIA ROAD

An Unfurnished semi detached house briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Kitchen, Living Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking

£475 PCM



UPPER GORNAL, TUDOR VALE

Located in this ever popular cul-de-sac is this end mews house, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Downstairs WC, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking, Unfurnished

£475 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, ELY CLOSE

This ground floor apartment, minutes away from the local motorway access, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking Space

£425 PCM



HALESOWEN, STOURBRIDGE ROAD

This well presented furnished apartment convenient for all local amenities and transport links, briefly comprises of: Modern Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Large Double Bedroom, Parking Space, Internal Inspection Recommended

£395 PCM



NETHERTON, ST GEORGES ROAD

This lovely unfurnished first floor flat, situated in a quiet area, comprises of: Electric Storage Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Parking Space

£395 PCM



HALESOWEN, STOURBRIDGE ROAD

A 2 bed unfurnished flat above a shop and within walking distance of town centre comprising of: Living room, dining kitchen, 2 bedrooms, shower room, gas central heating, double glazing, parking space and rear garden.

£395 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, VICTORIA GARDENS

A modern ground floor apartment, in the centre of Old Hill, with local bus stop outside, and Old Hill train station close by, briefly comprising of: One Double Bedroom, Electric Storage Heating, Double Glazing, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking, Unfurnished

£395 PCM

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This charming home in Kidderminster Road South is on the market with estate agent Andrew Grant for £575,000

Detached with paddock and country views



In this spacious home in Hagley, the lounge has a feature fireplace and burner in the large lounge

THE chance to buy a charming detached house with a paddock has arisen in Hagley.

Number 152 Kidderminster Road South boasts countryside views, a dining room, sitting room, garden room, utility, dressing room, nursery/study, three bedrooms, large rear garden, paddock and stable.

This spacious home is on the market for offers in the region of £575,000 via Andrew Grant.

The reception hall has deep skirting, an oak floor, ceiling coving, cloakroom and a bathroom with chrome mixer tap and shower attachment, pedestal wash basin, WC, bidet, storage cupboards and heated towel rail.

Outside, the house is set back behind an ample gravelled frontage leading to a garage with a remote controlled door.

The rear garden has a patio, brick garden store, steps up to a further patio area with raised borders, an ornamental fish pond, lawn, pergola, mature and established plants and trees, greenhouse, shed, tap, outside lighting, gated side entrance and path leading to the 0.44 acre post and rail paddock with a 12ft x 12ft stable.

For more information or to arrange a viewing, contact the agent on 01905 734735.

Stunning

Upstairs, the master bedroom measures 17ft 6in x 17ft 9in and has stunning countryside views, deep skirting, a dressing area with hanging rails and a vanity wash basin, WC and double width shower.

There are three further bedrooms,

Hyundai wipes drivers' blues with new fuel-sipping model



Low emissions and excellent fuel economy are a bonus for thrifty motorists

FOLLOWING on from the successful i10 Blue launched at the beginning of the year, Hyundai has added another sub-100g/km CO₂ model to its range - the i20 Blue.

With emissions of 98g/km, it is the lowest emitting vehicle in Hyundai UK's line-up.

The i20 Blue is based on the current i20 Comfort trim level, mated to the 1.4 CRDi 90 PS engine, and is priced at £13,195 on-the-road.

To achieve the CO₂ figures, the i20 Blue has the following Blue Drive technologies: Intelligent Stop & Go (ISG), low rolling resistance tyres, rear suspension under cover and rear-wheel deflector. With these, the i20 Blue achieves a 12



per cent reduction in emissions (compared to the current 1.4 CRDi 90PS Style i20 model) from 111g/km to 98g/km.

Drivers of the i20 Blue won't need to make regular visits to a fuel station. The 1.4 CRDI Euro V compliant four-cylinder engine achieves 76.4mpg combined - the kind of cheap-to-run credentials that are important as the cost of motoring continues to rise. This is a 14 per cent improvement on a combined cycle compared to the i20 1.4 CRDI 90PS Style model.

To put these figures into perspective, it would cost approximately £63 to fill up the i20 Blue with diesel for a range of 755 miles. As well as excellent fuel economy, the i20 Blue also gains exemption from VED and the London Congestion Charge as it emits less than 100g/km.

Mirrors

The i20 Blue's standard equipment includes 15-inch alloy wheels, Bluetooth connectivity with voice recognition, electric heated and folding door mirrors, electric front and rear windows, steering wheel audio controls, USB and aux connections, air conditioning and remote central locking.

Sitting alongside the i10 Blue, the new i20 Blue model demonstrates Hyundai's continuous commitment to increasing the efficiency of both its petrol and diesel engines.

On-sale now, and like all Hyundai passenger cars, the Hyundai i20 Blue comes with a Five Year Triple Care package, which includes a five-year, unlimited mileage, manufacturer backed warranty, five years of roadside assistance and five years of annual vehicle health checks.



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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100 km) for the Picanto range are: Urban: 42.2 (6.7) - 53.3 (5.3), Extra Urban: 62.8 (4.5) - 78.5 (3.6), Combined: 53.3 (5.3) - 67.3 (4.2). CO₂ emissions are 125 - 99 g/km.

2 years / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. See your local dealer or visit www.kia.co.uk for full warranty terms and exclusions. Model shown is 1.25 New Picanto 3 (5 Door) £11,195 On The Road (OTR). OTR prices include VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vessel First Registration Fee. Metallic/mica paint is available at an extra cost of £415 (including VAT). Price correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. *Depending on your mobile phone contract, mobile data charges may apply. If in doubt consult your mobile network provider.

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+ Lifetime warranty

Lifetime 100,000 mile warranty. First registered owner.



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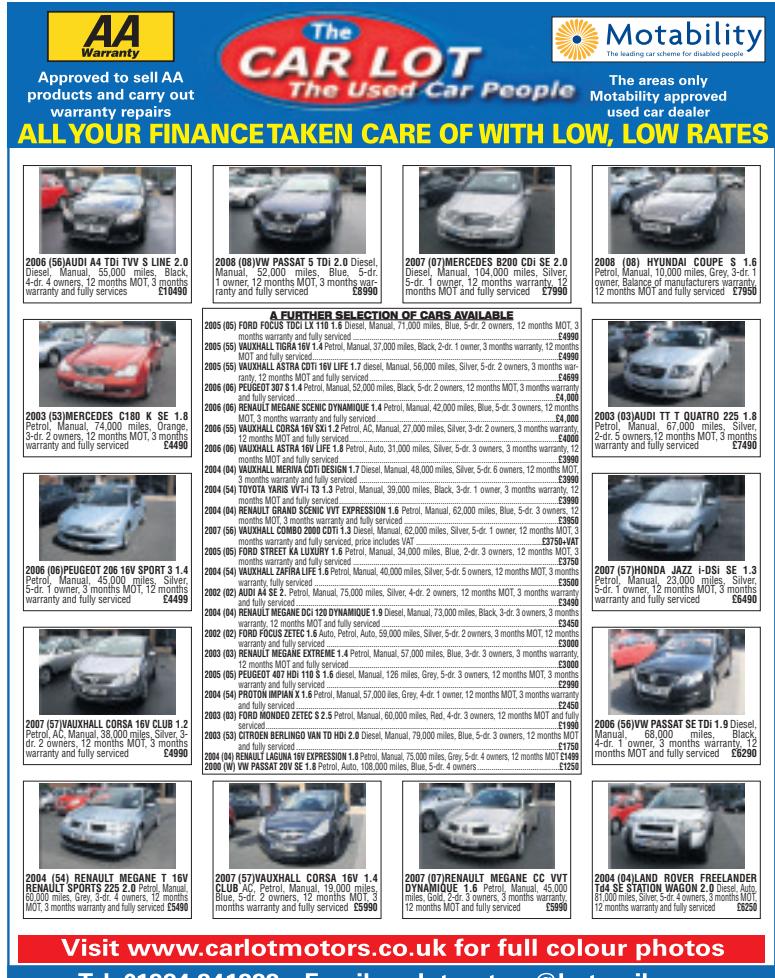


VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 67.3 (4.2). Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1). Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 80.7 (3.5). CO₂ emissions: 324-94g/km.

*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech models. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals. Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 30 September 2011. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. [†]Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution.

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55 Reg **CITROEN XSARA PICASSO 2.0 HDI DESIRE** MPV Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys

06 Reg **FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE** Orange, Cd, Low Insurance, Grp 2, 37k

57 Reg **FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE** Grey, Cd, Low Insurance, Grp 2, 37k

04 Reg **FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME** Orange, Alloys, Cd

08 Reg **FORD C-MAX 1.8 ZETEC** MPV Silver, A/C, Alloys, Cd, FSH

08 Reg **FORD C-MAX 2.0 TDCI ZETEC** MPV Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys

03 Reg **FORD FOCUS 2.0 ST170** Black, AC, CD, Leather, Sports Seats, FSH

03 Reg **FORD FOCUS 1.4 CL Silver**, CD, Low Insurance, Grp 4

55 Reg **FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI LX Estate** Blue, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH

06 Reg **FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX DUAL FUEL** Blue, Petrol/Gas, A/C, CD, FSH

55 Reg **FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI GHIA Silver**, Diesel, A/C, Alloys

07 Reg **FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI LX** Red, Diesel, Alloys, Cd

57 Reg **FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI ZETEC Silver**, Diesel, AC, Alloys, Cd, FSH

06 Reg **FORD KA 1.13i Collection** Black, Col coded bumpers, Low tax & insurance

08 Reg **FORD KA 1.3i STYLE** Blue, Col coded bumpers, Low tax & insurance, 3k

55 Reg **FORD STREET KA 1.6i Red**, Silver, Convertible, Red Leather Seats, AC, Alloys

08 Reg **FORD MONDEO 1.8 TDCI EDGE Silver**, Diesel, A/C, Cd, FSH, 68k

58 Reg **FORD MONDEO 1.8 TDCI EDGE ESTATE Silver**, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, Cd, 68k

07 Reg **JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0 D** Grey, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, Cd

56 Reg **JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0 CLASSIC** Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, Cd

56 Reg **JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0 S ESTATE** Blue, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, Cd, 5d, FSH

02 Reg **NISSAN MICRA 1.0 S Grey**, Blue, Low Insurance Grp 3, px to clear

53 Reg **PEUGEOT 206 1.4 SE Silver**, A/C, Alloys, Cd Multi Changer

04 Reg **PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Gold**, A/C, Alloys, Cd

56 Reg **PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SE Black A/C**, A/C, Alloys, Cd, 5-d, FSH, 34k

51 Reg **PEUGEOT 307 2.0 XSI Black**, A/C, Alloys, Cd, Half Leather Sports Seats

53 Reg **PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S ESTATE Silver** A/C, Alloys, Cd, Roof rails & bars, 53k

04 Reg **PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S** **STATE AUTOMATIC** Silver, A/C, Alloys, Cd

05 Reg **PEUGEOT 307 1.6 X-LINE Red**, A/C, Alloys, Cd

05 Reg **PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDI 110 SPORT** Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, Cd

55 Reg **PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S Red**, A/C, Alloys, Cd, FSH, 59k

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£4495 .. .	£29	56 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.6 DYNAMIQUE (New Shape), AC, Alloys, CD, 5-door, Low Ins Grp 3, FSH .. .	£3995 .. .	£26
£3695 .. .	£26	56 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE (New Shape) Diesel, Black, AC, CD, 5-door, FSH .. .	£3695 .. .	£36
£1495 .. .	£28	06 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof .. .	£195 .. .	£21
£3495 .. .	£23	04 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, 30 Road Tax, 42k .. .	£195 .. .	£28
£4695 .. .	£30	57 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Blue, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, 30 Road Tax, FSH .. .	£4695 .. .	£30
£7495 .. .	£44	07 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Grey, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, 30 Road Tax, FSH .. .	£4995 .. .	£33
£2695 .. .	£17	08 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Grey, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, 30 Road Tax, FSH .. .	£6195 .. .	£40
£2695 .. .	£17	04 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE Cabriolet, Blue, 18in Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof, 45k .. .	£4695 .. .	£30
£3695 .. .	£24	04 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE Cabriolet, Silver, AC, Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof, FSH .. .	£195 .. .	£33
£4495 .. .	£29	04 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE MPV Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD .. .	£2495 .. .	£17
£4495 .. .	£29	07 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE MPV Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH .. .	£4695 .. .	£30
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Low failure rate takes manufacturer to the top of the table with What Car?

Honda wins on reliability

HONDA beat rivals to the top of the What Car? league table thanks to an impressively-low nine per cent failure rate in the first 12 months.

Honda dominated the top of the SUV table with the HR-V and CR-V at number one and two. Jazz and Accord both came fifth in their respective classes while Civic came third as a small hatchback.

What Car? editor in chief, Chas Hallett said: "The success of Honda in this year's reliability study is very impressive, especially as this is Honda's sixth overall win as the UK's most reliable car maker. Reliability is key for car buyers. The car makers at the bottom of the study have a lot of work to do to catch up with Honda," he added.

What Car? is not the only title to recognise Honda's bullet-proof reliability.

The 2011 Which? Car survey recently named Honda as the most reliable brand and the 2011 JD Power vehicle ownership satisfaction study saw Honda retain the number two spot in the overall league table – the highest-placed volume manufacturer. The JD Power Survey awarded Jazz its eighth consecutive win in the supermini class and for the second year running Accord topped the chart in the family car category, while Civic and CR-V were ranked second in their respective classes.

Influential

Honda also holds the top spot as Britain's most reliable car manufacturer in the influential FN50 survey. Honda beat off rivals in this annual survey which is published by industry-leading publication Fleet News.

The report covers 1.5 million vehicles owned or managed by the country's 50 largest contract hire companies. Honda also featured highly in the top ten most reliable cars with the Accord and British-built Civic in second and ninth place respectively. Dave Hodgetts, managing director of Honda (UK), said: "We strive to make every second of Honda ownership an enjoyable experience, and that means looking after our drivers throughout their use of our cars."

"This all starts with building reliable and high quality cars that are affordable to run and maintain, but continues with service at our dealers that exceeds expectation."

At the heart of Honda's approach is understanding and meeting customer requirements. Honda takes a complete approach to build quality and vehicle reliability.

Reliability isn't just a focus during the manufacturing process but also at the research and development stage, during the parts procurement process and is a key part of the work Honda carries out with suppliers. Only by focussing on vehicle quality throughout the design and build process can Honda deliver such a strong record for cars that just don't go wrong.

Since 2004/05, Honda has had a uniform manufacturing process across the world, meaning that the same models, built in different manufacturing plants, are assembled in an identical fashion. This helps to deliver consistency in manufacturing activity and output.



The Jazz won the Supermini class in the JD Power Survey



The British-built Civic came ninth in the Fleet News annual survey

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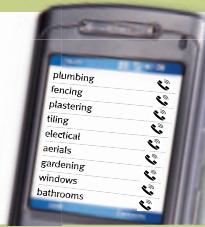
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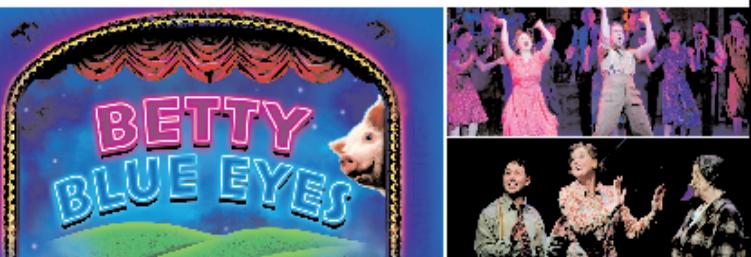
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YELTZ DEFIED BY KEEPER DEMPSEY

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HALESOWEN remained unbeaten but couldn't quite find enough spark to secure a winner in a disappointing stalemate at lowly Yate.

Naveed Arshad and Lee Chilton were both unavailable due to family reasons; injured Peter Folkes was replaced by Brendan Kelly and Jean-Michel Gueyes came in to make his Halesowen debut.

Nisbett nets as Halesowen win in some style

STRIKERS Justin Nisbett and Nathan Jackson bagged their first goals of the season as Halesowen ended Bideford's 100 per cent record in style.

The Yeltz started brightly in a compelling contest with Aaron Lescott playing the ball in for Jackson to hit tamely at goalkeeper Oliver Chenoweth.

Hard-working Nisbett then missed a good chance for a seventh-minute Halesowen lead as he placed his shot wide of the post when through on goal.

Bideford began to settle and piled forward quickly when in possession, with home goalkeeper Paul Evans having to be alert to make a fine save with his legs from Ben Wood.

Seconds later Sean Downing turned well in the penalty area to hit just past the post as Bideford threatened further in Saturday's game.

Halesowen lost defender Peter Folkes to injury with Brendan Kelly his replacement and the chances continued to come thick and fast.

Storming

The Robins looked to have taken a 28th minute lead but Matt Bay was unlucky to see his shot thump back off the post with Evans beaten.

Bye then shot just wide after 39 minutes and was denied again as Evans raced out of his goal a minute later.

After coming through the Bideford storm The Yeltz were quickly out of the traps to make a storming start to the second half, with Nisbett scoring twice within five minutes.

He won a long ball from Gavin Saunders just a

Halesowen Town 3 Bideford 1

The Halesowen Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford, Shropshire. Thursday, August 25, 2011.

Early on visiting goalkeeper Paul Evans collected a low shot from Neikel Plummer and Tom Kington nodded wide for Yate from Michael Meaker's corner.

Halesowen's Nathan Jackson received a 14th-minute yellow card on Tuesday and was then the subject of further suspicion after an incident with Kington in midfield just three minutes later.

Busy Yeltz keeper Evans was on hand to save well again in the 21st minute when Tyrone Mings - son of Chippenham manager Adie Mings - whipped in a free-kick from the edge of the penalty area.

Halesowen won their first corner of the game a minute later following a neat spell of possession but the Blue-bells cleared.

Just before half-time Kelly struck a 25-yard free-kick over the bar for the visitors.

Then another free-kick from Aaron Lescott was collected just under the crossbar by Dempsey.

Pressure

At the start of the second period Gueyes struck just wide of the target and Andrew Westwood went close from a Nathaniel Caines cross as Halesowen put pressure on Dempsey's goal.

Evans continued to command his goal and kept Halesowen's clean sheet by saving Meaker's 65th-minute shot.

He then touched a curling effort from Jake Cox around the post.

With neither side appearing likely to break the deadlock, Evans did well to hold onto a header from home captain Ed Vahid from a deep volley.

Saunders then stepped up and drove the ball over the Bideford bar.

In stoppage time Halesowen threatened a fourth when Chilton crossed well from the left only for substitute Naveed Arshad to be denied on the Bideford goal-line.

Captain Gavin Saunders went closest to snatching victory for the Yeltz.

But his 77th-minute shot from 20 yards was superbly clawed out from under the crossbar by Dempsey to keep the 0-0 scoreline intact.

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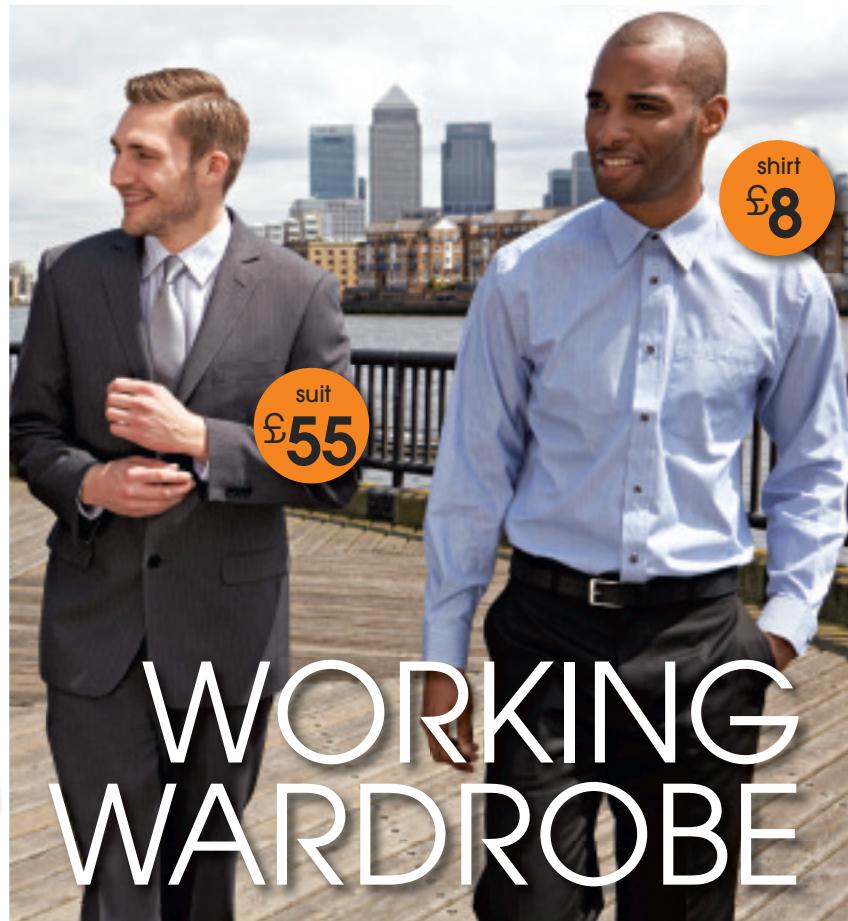
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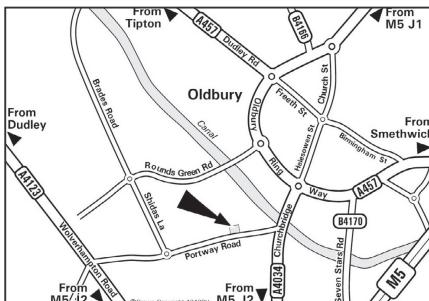
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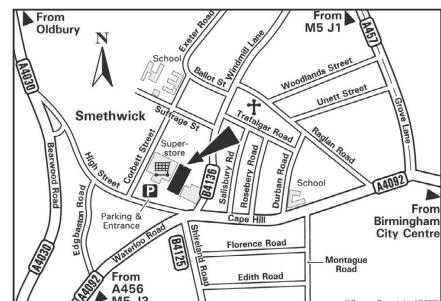
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